

REMARKS

The Office Action of May 25, 2004 has been reviewed and the comments therein were carefully considered. Claim 9 has been canceled. Claim 1 has been amended. No new matter has been introduced into the application. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application and allowance of all pending claims.

Objection of the Title

Examiner objected to the title of as not descriptive. Applicants amend the title as set forth above, and respectfully request the withdrawal of the objection.

Rejections under 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-6, 9, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated Parsons (U.S. Patent No. 3,995,644). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. A rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 is not proper unless all limitations in the claim are found in a single prior art reference.

The present invention is an electrode connector for connecting a conventional tab electrode to a system for collecting physiological data from a patient. With regard to independent claim 1, Parsons fails to disclose, teach, or suggest a device for connecting a conventional tab electrode or sensor to a physiological system. Moreover, Parsons fails to disclose, teach, or suggest any device that has a lead connecting portion that is connected to a tab connection via an extension portion, or any device that has a tab connection portion configured to connect to a tab on a conventional tab electrode or sensor. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of independent claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 is not proper. Furthermore, because claims 2-6, 9, and 13 depend from claim 1, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2-6, 9, and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 for at least the same reasons as independent claim 1.

Claims 1, 2, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Archer (U.S. Patent No. 4,671,591). With regard to independent claim 1, similar to Parsons, Archer fails to disclose, teach, or suggest any device for connecting a conventional tab electrode or sensor to a physiological system for collecting physiological data from a patient. Indeed, Archer fails to disclose, teach, or suggest any device that has a lead connecting portion that is connected to a tab connection via an extension portion, or any device that has a tab connection portion configured to connect to a tab on a conventional tab electrode or sensor. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of independent claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 is not proper. Furthermore, because claims 2 and 7 depend from claim 1, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 for at least the same reasons as independent claim 1.

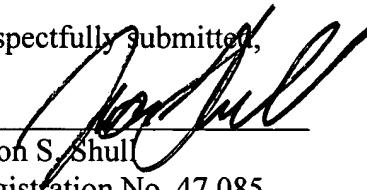
Rejections under 35 USC § 103

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Archer (U.S. Patent No. 4,671,591). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. As discussed above, Archer fails to disclose, teach, or suggest any device for connecting a conventional tab electrode or sensor to a physiological system for collecting physiological data from a patient. Applicants respectfully submit that it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the connector disclosed in Archer to include a lead connecting portion that is connected to a tab connection via an extension portion, wherein the tab connection portion is configured to connect to a tab on a conventional tab electrode or sensor. As a result, as discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 is in condition for allowance. In addition, because claim 8 depends from independent claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 8 is in condition for allowance for the same reasons.

Claims 10-12 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parsons (U.S. Patent No. 3,995,644). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. As discussed above, Parsons fails to disclose, teach, or suggest any device for connecting a conventional tab electrode or sensor to a physiological system for collecting physiological data from a patient. Applicants respectfully submit that it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the connector disclosed in Parsons to include a lead connecting portion that is connected to a tab connection via an extension portion, wherein the tab connection portion is configured to connect to a tab on a conventional tab electrode or sensor. As a result, as discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 is in condition for allowance. In addition, because claims 10-12 depend from independent claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 10-12 are in condition for allowance for the same reasons.

The Applicants respectfully submits that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a conversation with Applicants' representative would be useful in the prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited and encouraged to call Applicants' representative.

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Respectfully submitted,


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